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Wednesday, April 26, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

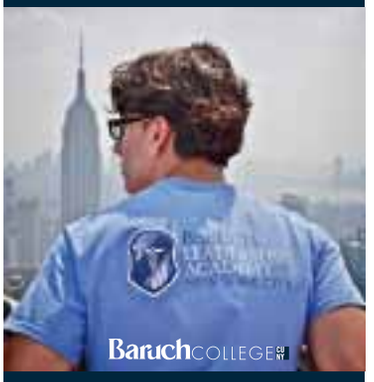
JEB, JETER AND THE FISH

Group led by Yankees legend Derek Jeter and politician Jeb Bush wins auction to buy Miami Marlins. 10

Alexis Bledel dishes on 'The Handmaid's Tale.' 26

NHL playoffs: Round 2 preview. 30.

SUMMER PROGRAMS
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



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SEEKING THE GREEN

De Blasio pledges $100 million for construction of the Manhattan Waterfront Greenway along East 53rd and 61st streets. 4

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LAWYERS SEEK TO TOSS HERNANDEZ VERDICT

1 A week after one-time National Football League star Aaron Hernandez killed himself in his prison cell, lawyers asked a Massachusetts judge to vacate his 2015 conviction for murdering an acquaintance. In addition to clearing Hernandez's name, the legal move, at the behest of his family including his girlfriend, Shayanna Jenkins Hernandez, could help protect his estate from liability in civil

lawsuits filed by the survivors of his alleged victims. The filing, made on Tuesday at Massachusetts Superior Court in Fall River, is based on a quirk of Massachusetts law that allows a court to reverse a verdict if the person convicted dies before he has exhausted his appeals process. REUTERS

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN THREAT RECEDES

2 The threat of a U.S. government shutdown this weekend appeared to recede after President Donald Trump backed away from a demand that Congress include funding for his planned border wall with Mexico in a spending bill. In remarks to conservative news media outlets that were confirmed by the White House, Trump said on Monday he may wait until Republicans begin drafting the budget blueprint for the fiscal year that starts on Oct. 1 to seek funds for the wall. Trump's fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress but the current funding bill, which has to be passed by Friday night, will need 60 votes to clear the 100-member Senate, where Republicans hold 52 seats and so will have to get some Democratic support. Democratic leaders had said it would not get it if funds for the wall were included. REUTERS

IVANKA TRUMP CLOTHING IS BEING SECRETLY SOLD

3 Check your clothing labels, because that Adrienne Vittadini blazer probably isn't what it seems — fashion bloggers have discovered Ivanka Trump's clothing brand is being sold under another label. Two identical garments — one with an Ivanka Trump label and another with an Adrienne Vittadini Studio label — were discovered by London fashion blog Business of Fashion at a Stein Mart, a Florida-based

discount retailer with 290 stores in 39 states. But it's no case of mistaken identity, G-III, the company that owns the right to manufacture and distribute Ivanka Trump clothing, admitted to selling the relabeled apparel to Stein Mart. It alleges the Ivanka Trump brand didn't know about the label swap. REUTERS

FIERY FREEWAY CRASH

4 Police and investigators survey the scene of a fiery crash involving two big rigs and multiple passenger vehicles that left one person dead and nine others injured and which shut down the Golden State Freeway in both directions on Tuesday in Los Angeles. GETTY IMAGES

VENEZUELA'S DEATH TOLL RISES TO 26 IN UNREST

5 Two Venezuelan men died on Tuesday from gunshots at political demonstrations, bringing to 26 the number of fatalities around this month's protests against President Nicolas Maduro's socialist government. The state prosecutor's office said Orlando Medina, 23, was gunned down on a street in western Lara state during a protest local media identified as anti-Maduro. Luis Marquez, 52, died in the Andean state of Merida in the early morning after being shot on Monday at a pro-Maduro rally, state ombudsman Tarek Saab said. In more than three weeks of chaos since Venezuela's opposition launched street protests, 15 people have died in violence around demonstrations and 11 others in nighttime lootings, the state prosecutor's office said on Tuesday. REUTERS

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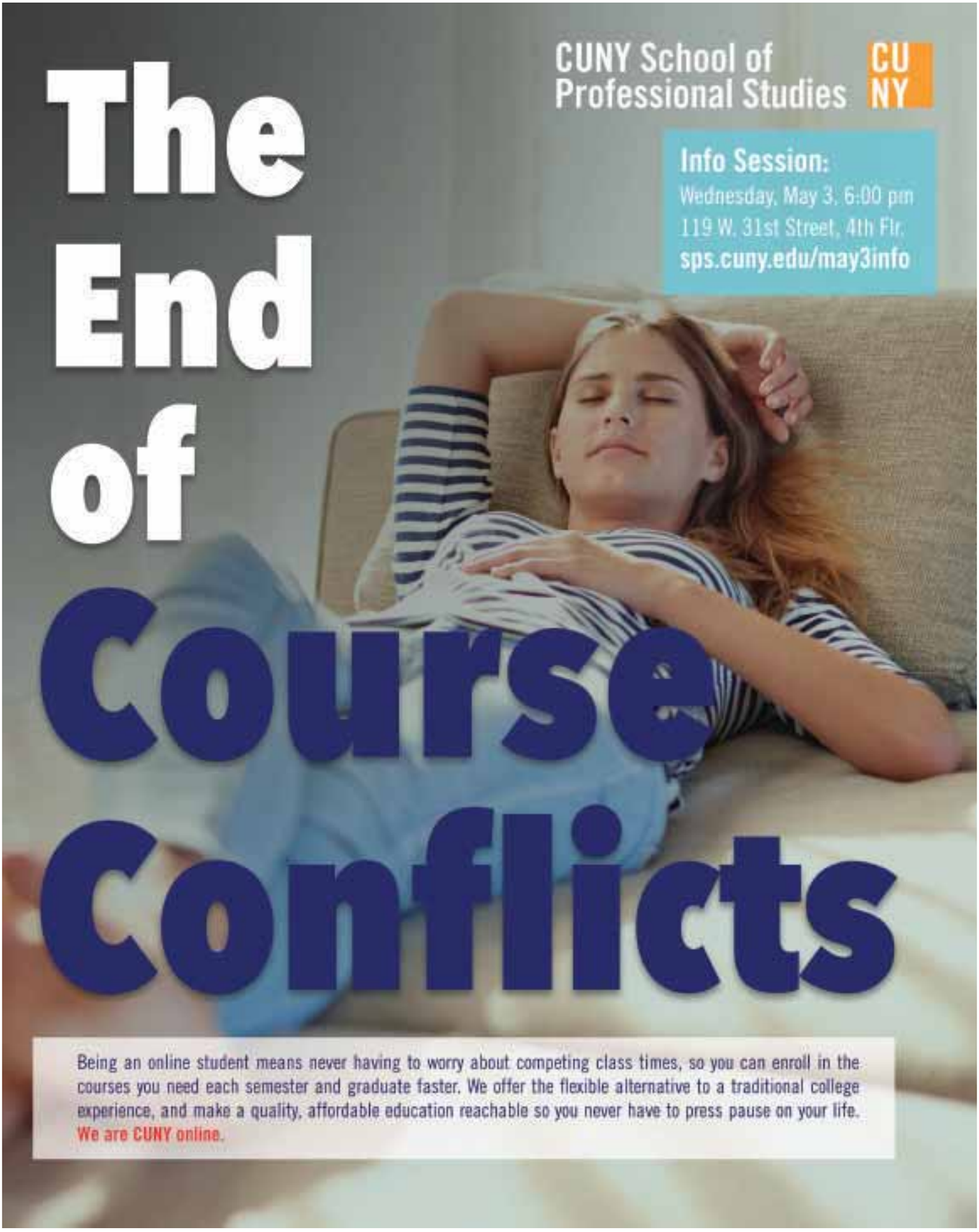
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De Blasio budgets $100M for East River pedestrian greenway link

The eight-block esplanade project would connect existing parts of the greenway from 53rd to 61st streets.

AMANDA MIKELBERG
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Mayor Bill de Blasio wants to jump-start construction to close the major gap in the greenway "loop" around the coast of Manhattan. CITY OF NEW YORK

Mayor Bill de Blasio is throwing $100 million into the East River — for use in constructing a bikeway and walkway that stretches for eight blocks above water.

The mayor announced Tuesday, a day ahead of his budget presentation, that he will earmark the money to jump-start construction of an esplanade to "close the gap" in the existing Manhattan Waterfront Greenway, between East 53rd and East 61st streets.

The construction will bring the city a step closer to a continuous 32-mile pedestrian "loop" around the coast of Manhattan, which has been the pursuit of all mayors since David Dinkins in 1993.

The New York City Economic Development Corp. will begin to design the esplanade this year with construction slated to commence in 2019 and be completed by 2022.

"We're jump-starting the completion of a greenway linking the entire Manhattan waterfront," de Blasio said. "The Hudson River Greenway has vastly improved quality of life on the West Side, and we want families in every corner in the borough to have that same access to bike, walk and play along the water. This is the first of many big investments we'll make as we bring the full greenway to reality."

> *"We're jump-starting the completion of a Greenway linking the entire Manhattan waterfront."*
> Mayor Bill de Blasio

Councilman Ben Kallos, who co-chairs the East River Esplanade Taskforce, applauded the plan. "I will finally be able to run the full length of my district from Midtown East to East Harlem," he said.

While the esplanade is being hailed by many officials, some New Yorkers believe that resources should not be diverted from maintenance of the existing pathways and parks along the East River.

"Above 70th, in the UES & Harlem, the Esplanade is not just unsightly, but dangerous. We've had enough. When will we see real improvements?" tweeted Dara Hunt to the Office of the Mayor on Tuesday morning.

Another $5 million will go toward studying the remaining gaps along the greenway, most notably between 119th and 154th streets, where "low-traffic volume links" take pedestrians back through the city.

South Cove waterfront area on Manhattan overlooks the Hudson River. GETTY IMAGES

Coalition: Consider climate change in waterfront designs

Developing New York City's coastlines into functional and attractive spaces continues to be one of the most discernable aspects of the city's evolution in the 21st century.

But Mayor Bill de Blasio's commitment of $100 million to "closing the loop" of the Manhattan greenway on the Upper East Side is just a piece of the puzzle, explained Roland Lewis, president and CEO of Waterfront Alliance, a coalition of 900 organizations advocating for coastal development around all the boroughs.

The organization has been a force behind New York's waterfront policies since 2011. It has pursued the transformation of New York and New Jersey's 700 miles of shoreline into beautiful, public spaces and works to prevent physical barriers from separating city and the sea.

"We are a city rediscovering our waterfront and using it, and it's an amazing asset that should be realized, not just for use by New Yorkers but to attract and compete with the whole world," Lewis told Metro.

Lewis believes that a five-borough greenway project should be pursued aggressively, especially in respect to changing weather patterns and rising sea levels that threaten the city from all angles.

"We're tremendously concerned about rising sea water. Whatever is being built, it needs to be taken into consideration to account for the incremental rise in water level and also the threat from disasters we have to build with the water all around us," he said. "Parks are a great use of the waterfront because they can flood, and when the water recedes it's usable again."

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Lawsuits filed in federal and state courts in Manhattan allege that only 112 of New York City's 472 subway stations are wheelchair-accessible. GETTY IMAGES

MTA faces 2 lawsuits over disabled access to subway stations

New York City and the MTA have resisted demands to upgrade the system, according to the complaints, which do not estimate the cost of doing so.

Most of New York City's huge, aging subway system is inaccessible to disabled people, and its operator illegally discriminates against them by failing to fix the problems, disability rights advocates said in two lawsuits on Tuesday.

According to complaints filed in federal and state courts in Manhattan, only 112 of the city's 472 subway stations are wheelchair-accessible, and even those often end up off-limits to disabled people because elevators break down so often.

Nonetheless, the city and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority have resisted demands to upgrade the system, according to the complaints, which do not estimate the cost of doing so.

Such failures leave disabled residents and visitors "barred, limited, and deterred from equal use of, in the words of former MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast, 'the most efficient way to get around town,'" one of the lawsuits said.

The MTA had no immediate comment. Nick Paolucci, a spokesman for the city's law department, called the plaintiff's claim against the city "misplaced" because the MTA and the New York City Transit Authority oversee subway operations.

New York City's subway carries about 5.65 million riders on an average weekday, and 1.76 billion a year.

Tuesday's lawsuits were filed by Disability Rights Advocates on behalf of several nonprofit groups and three individuals.

"If just one elevator is out of service, I'm stuck," the plaintiff, Sasha Blair-Goldensohn, a Google software engineer and wheelchair user, said in a statement.

While multiple lawsuits have targeted inaccessible subway stations, the plaintiffs said the state lawsuit is the first to challenge systemwide inaccessibility.

According to court papers, the MTA suffered 9,019 elevator outages in the year ended June 2015, of which 4,117 were unplanned.

Such breakdowns often leave disabled riders marooned on platforms unless people help them to street level, which MTA staff are sometimes "unwilling" to do, one complaint said.

New York's subway contrasts with transit systems in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. whose stations are 100 percent accessible, and old systems in Boston and Chicago that are more than two-thirds accessible, one complaint said.

"If just one elevator is out of service, I'm stuck."
Sasha Blair-Goldensohn

The lawsuits accuse the defendants of violating a city human rights law and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

They seek to require the MTA to maintain working elevators and ensure that the subway is "systemically" accessible within a "reasonable" time. REUTERS / METRO

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Security Guard 8-hour Course	SAT 05/13/17, 06/03/17	9:30am-5:30pm
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C.N.A. Morning	M-TH 05/22-8/08/17	9am-2pm
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Phlebotomy	M-TH 05/22-7/6/17	6pm-9pm
EKG Technician	M-TH 05/08-5/18/17	9am-1pm
EKG Technician	M-TH 07/17-7/27/17	9am-1pm
Dental Assistant	M, W 07/17-10/23/17	6pm-9pm
Pharmacy Technician	T, W, TH 05/30-9/26/17	10am-1pm
Clinical Medical Assistant	M, T, TH 09/18-01/18/17	6pm-9pm
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English Links/InglésIntensivo	M-Fri 05/08-08/16/17	6pm-9pm
English Links/InglésIntensivo	SAT 05/06-06/24/17	9am-2pm
ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	M, W 05/08-07/17/17	6pm-9pm
ESL/Inglés como Segundo Idioma	T, TH 05/09-07/18/17	6pm-9pm
HSE English	T, TH 05/30-08/22/17	9:30am -12:30pm
HSE English	T, TH 05/30-08/22/17	6pm -9pm
HSE Spanish	M, W 05/29-08/16/17	9:30-12:30pm
HSE Spanish	M, W 05/29-08/16/17	6pm-9pm
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Officials speak about the NYPD gun license bribery scheme. TWITTER/NYPDNEWS

3 ex-NYPD officers, former ADA charged in gun license scheme

They were allegedly given vacations, parties, cash and prostitutes in exchange for swift gun permit approvals.

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Three former NYPD officers and a former assistant district attorney are accused of accepting assorted bribes to give speedy approvals to applicants for gun permits.

The applicants included "individuals with substantial criminal histories, including arrests and convictions for crimes involving weapons or violence, and for individuals with histories of domestic violence," according to court records unsealed Tuesday.

The three-year federal investigation found that the cops and former ADA allegedly approved gun permits in exchange for cash, free vacations, prostitutes, parties and more.

"The behavior, as alleged in today's charging documents, is intolerable," NYPD Commissioner James P. O'Neill said in a statement.

Those charged were:

Former Lt. Paul Dean: Second in command of the NYPD's License Division, the 44-year-old Wantagh resident was charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit bribery and one count of extortion. The bribery charge carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison, while the extortion charge is punishable by a maximum of 10 years. He was a member of the NYPD from 1994-2016.

Former officer Robert Espinel: The 47-year-old Seaford resident faces the same charges as Dean. He was a member of NYPD from 1995 until his retirement in 2016.

Former officer Gaetano "Guy" Valastro: The 58-year-old Queens resident was charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit bribery and one count of making false statements, which also carries a five-year maximum prison sentence. After retiring from the force in 1999, he ran a gun store.

John Chambers: The former Kings County assistant district attorney, 62, was charged with one count each of bribery and conspiracy to commit bribery. The first carries a 10-year maximum sentence, while the latter five years.

"Corruption at the license division also spawned a cottage industry of parasitic profiteers, alleged bribers masquerading as so-called expediters" like Chambers, Joon H. Kim, acting U.S. attorney in Manhattan, said in a statement. "The critically important police function of issuing and controlling gun licenses was one they were willing to pervert for personal profit."

The unsealed court records also show guilty pleas by former NYPD License Division Sgt. David Villaneuva and gun license expediter Frank Soohoo, who were both accused of being involved in the scheme and agreed to cooperate with government investigators.

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Mayor plans to cool down classrooms

Mayor Bill de Blasio revealed Tuesday that the city will commit $28.7 million over the next five years to equip every classroom in the city with air conditioning.

"I've spoken with countless parents at town halls across the city and this issue has come up repeatedly," de Blasio said in a statement.

"We're investing in classrooms to create a safe, comfortable atmosphere to build on the progress our schools have made over the last few years."

An estimated 11,500 classrooms citywide have no working air conditioners. That's about 26 percent of all classrooms in the city, officials said.

The money being set aside for the project in the city budget will provide air conditioning to more than 2,000 classrooms during the first year of the program, the mayor's office said.

During the five-year project, the city will also invest about $50 million to upgrade electrical systems to handle the new air conditioners.

"New York City's public school kids think this is the coolest thing Mayor de Blasio has ever done! But it is also a totally serious one," City Council Member Brad Lander said in a statement.

Council Member Mark Treyger added that students have difficulty staying alert in hot classrooms.

As a former educator, I have seen firsthand how poor ventilation and uncomfortable temperatures can negatively impact the learning process," he said.

GARY KANE

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Former Yankee great Derek Jeter and a group of investors have reportedly won an auction to buy the Miami Marlins baseball franchise. GETTY IMAGES

Jeter, Bush poised to take ownership of Miami Marlins

The team beat Jeter's Yankees in the 2003 World Series.

JOE PANTORNO
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A group led by New York Yankees legend Derek Jeter and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush has won the auction to buy the Miami Marlins, according to local news reports.

The asking price for the MLB franchise was $1.3 billion and the deal is currently pending league approval and contract details, reported the Miami Herald.

A source also disclosed to the newspaper that Bush would be the controlling owner within the group that contains more than five investors. Jeter will have an active role within the organization.

They apparently had to scramble to win this auction. Forbes reported earlier on Tuesday that Jeter and Bush's group had enough money to put down "about $200 million of equity," and were "running around looking to raise money."

Jeter and Bush originally were attempting to buy the Marlins on their own. It wasn't until April 19, as first reported by the Miami Herald, that the two merged their efforts.

Their stiffest competition for the team came in the form of New York financier and manager of Quogue Capital, Wayne Rothbaum.

The Marlins were almost sold by current owner Jeffrey Loria to the Kushner family for $1.6 billion in February, but the deal fell through after Loria was rumored to become President Donald Trump's ambassador to France, according to The Associated Press.

It left the door open for Jeter, who has made his desire of owning a franchise clear, to make a run at the team.

Jeter called a 20-year playing career with the Yankees quits in 2014 and has since mounted a charge at owning a professional baseball franchise.

In February of 2015, he told the Sporting News that purchasing a MLB team was the "ultimate goal."

Now with that goal within his reach, Jeter has a chance to lead a Marlins franchise that defeated his Yankees in the 2003 World Series.

Miami has not made the postseason since then, but has been building around a core of young stars like Giancarlo Stanton, Christian Yelich and Marcell Ozuna.

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Dr. Nguyen offers several advanced treatments for back pain at NYC Pain MD, depending on what you need.

He is a specialist in pain management and diagnosing and treating even the most severe cases of back pain.

Dr. Michael Nguyen... the Harvard doctor who bets he can help your back pain. No matter how bad or how many others have failed. For a fraction of the cost.

It is not uncommon for back pain sufferers to come to NYC Pain MD after many other treatments have failed and after suffering for years in pain.

What makes NYC Pain MD different?

Technology is only as good as the doctor using it.

There are many things Dr. Nguyen has learned over the years to “fine tune” treatments and get the best possible results.

Plus, NYC Pain MD is a multi-disciplinary clinic offering the best medical treatments available.

Your treatment plan will most likely not just include one treatment… but everything the experts think you need to get batter as fast as possible.

The program at NYC Pain MD is called, “Rejuvenate

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Back Pain” and addresses all the possible causes of back pain… including:
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Pain MD have found the results are much better when multiple approaches are used together.

And the best part is: All treatments for ALL the areas of the spine and joints (like knees, shoulder and hips... even ankles) are done right in our office’s procedure suites. There is no surgical center or hospital necessary. You do not need to be referred out and spend your whole day traveling to multiple clinics.

And this will save you a lot of time ... and money.

But the most important part is: the results.

Now I’m going to be totally honest with you.

Even though you will be seeing a world class doctor educated at Harvard… who is trained and skilled at the best back pain elimination techniques available today… this is NOT a miracle cure for everyone.

In fact, not everyone will eliminate their pain.

There are no guarantees in medicine. And no ethical doctor would ever make such a claim.

But we can say with all honesty, that we do help the majority of back pain sufferers we see.

Imagine if you could be out of pain in a few days or even a few hours? What would that be worth to you?

And what would it be worth to you if you could finally greatly reduce or even eliminate your back. neck pain… for good?

How would it feel to be able to go to bed… sleep through the night… and wake up… without pain.

And wouldn’t it be wonderful to be able to cancel that surgery, stop taking pain pills… and… go back to doing all the things you love to do but couldn’t because of the pain?

It’s amazing how many doors can open up, opportunities arrive… and… how much FUN life can be… when you are no longer suffering in pain.

And some patients DO get immediate… almost overnight results.

Can you imagine if that was you?

That’s probably something you would want to look into and possibly give a try… right?

If so… I’ve got great news.

Even though Dr. Nguyen and these wonderful treatments has helped a majority of back pain patients he has treated… sadly… it does not help everyone and you have probably been through countless treatments and don’t want to waste your time on another dead end.

For that reason, Dr. Nguyen and staff perform a complete screening on every potential patient and will only accept you if he feels you qualify for his treatments and are very likely to get the results you are looking for.

How to find out more
At NO cost and NO obligation

Every month Dr. Nguyen offers a very limited number of free screenings. At this screening, you get to see if these advanced treatments can help you… and get to ask questions etc.

This is a great way to find out if you qualify for treatments without wasting your time or your money.

Obviously, due to time limitations, Dr. Nguyen cannot evaluate everyone who wants to see him.

For that reasons, he must limit the number of free screenings he offers each month.

So, if you are interested, the best thing to do is call 800- 865-8026 right now and tell the scheduling coordinator you would like the free back pain screening. They will know what this is all about and schedule you for the soonest time available.

The quicker you call… the quicker you get to see Dr. Nguyen… and the quicker you may be out of pain.

It makes no sense to suffer one more day in pain when you don’t have to.

And there is no additional obligation. You come in for the screening… see if you qualify… get your questions answered… and you decide how to proceed.

This is NOT a sales presentation! In fact, just the opposite. Dr. Nguyen is a Harvard-trained specialist.
He will give you the information you’re looking for and tell you ... honestly… if he thinks he can help you.

Oh yes… the cost of treatments.

The screening is 100% at no cost. Treatments vary and it depends on what you need.
But NYC Pain MD is specifically designed to give patients world-class medical care at the best possible price.

We know insurance can really stink.

If you have it… and it covers treatment… great.

If not… we have options that are affordable by almost anyone.

In fact, we charge a fraction of what other NYC clinics charge for breakthrough treatments like Lipogems Stem cell therapy, Platelet rich plasma, spine and joint radio frequency nerve blocks and others.

Obviously, you won’t be getting a $10,000 bill from us. Not even close.

Everything will be explained to you at the screening and you will leave know exactly what to expect and what it all costs.

To schedule a free screening at NYC Pain MD with Dr. Nguyen call **800-865-8026** right now.

NYC PAIN MD

Ivanka attends W20 Conference

Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Christine Lagarde (left), German Chancellor Angela Merkel (center) and Ivanka Trump at a Gala Dinner at Deutsche Bank within the framework of the W20 summit on Tuesday in Berlin, Germany. GETTY IMAGES

US judge blocks Trump order to restrict funding for 'sanctuary cities'

The ruling from U.S. District Judge William Orrick III in San Francisco said Trump's Jan. 25 order targeted broad categories of federal funding for sanctuary governments and that plaintiffs challenging the order were likely to succeed in proving it unconstitutional.

President Donald Trump GETTY IMAGES

A U.S. judge on Tuesday blocked President Donald Trump's executive order that sought to withhold federal funds from so-called sanctuary cities, dealing another legal blow to the administration's efforts to toughen immigration enforcement.

The Republican president's moves on immigration have galvanized legal advocacy groups, along with Democratic city and state governments, to oppose them in court. The administration suffered an earlier defeat when two federal judges suspended executive orders restricting travel from several Muslim-majority countries. The government has appealed those decisions.

Representatives for the U.S. Justice Department and the White House were not immediately available for comment on the sanctuary ruling.

Sanctuary cities generally offer safe harbor to illegal immigrants and often do not use municipal funds or resources to advance the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Dozens of local governments and cities, including New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, have joined the growing "sanctuary" movement.

Supporters of the sanctuary policy argue that enlisting police cooperation in rounding up immigrants for removal undermines communities' trust in local police, particularly among Latinos.

The Trump administration contends that local authorities endanger public safety when they decline to hand over for deportation illegal immigrants arrested for crimes.

The executive order by Trump, who made cracking down on illegal immigration a cornerstone of his 2016 presidential campaign, directed such funding to be restricted once the Homeland Security Department determines what constitutes a sanctuary city.

Santa Clara County, which includes the city of San Jose and several smaller Silicon Valley communities, sued in February, saying Trump's order was unconstitutional. San Francisco filed a similar lawsuit.

The U.S. Justice Department threatened last week to cut some funding to California as well as eight cities and counties across the United States.

The department singled out Chicago and New York as two cities "crumbling under the weight of illegal immigration and violent crime," even though New York City is experiencing its lowest crime levels in decades and experts say Chicago's recent spike in violent crime has little to do with illegal immigration. REUTERS

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US military begins moving THAAD missile defense to S. Korea site

The U.S. military has started moving parts of the controversial THAAD anti-missile defense system into a planned deployment site in South Korea, Yonhap news agency reported on Wednesday, amid high tensions over North Korea's missile and nuclear programs.

The United States and South Korea have agreed to deploy THAAD in response to the threat of missile launches by North Korea but China says it will do little to deter the North while destabilizing the regional security balance.

Trailer trucks carrying parts of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system entered the site on what had been a golf course in the county of Seongju in a southern region of South Korea, Yonhap news agency and YTN television reported.

South Korean defense ministry officials and U.S. military officials could not immediately be reached for confirmation.

The United States began moving the first elements of the advanced missile defense system into South Korea in early March after the North test-launched four ballistic missiles.

But the U.S. and South Korean militaries have been reluctant to publicly discuss the progress of the deployment as candidates in a May 9 presidential election debated whether the move should go ahead or be delayed until after the vote. REUTERS

THAAD anti-missile defense rocket, seen this file photo. GETTY IMAGES

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Macron, Le Pen trade accusations in French election race

Emmanuel Macron GETTY IMAGES

France's two presidential candidates traded barbs on Tuesday with centrist Emmanuel Macron accusing far-right rival Marine Le Pen of promoting hatred, while she labeled him as the "candidate of the oligarchy."

Macron and Le Pen, leader of the National Front (FN), go head-to-head on May 7 after taking the top two places in Sunday's first round.

Opinion polls indicate that the business-friendly Macron, who has never held elected office, will take at least 60 percent of the vote against Le Pen after two defeated rivals pledged to back him to thwart her eurosceptic, anti-immigrant platform.

However, since Sunday Le Pen has been on the offensive. She has portrayed the 39-year-old former investment banker as weak in the face of Islamist militancy, the heir to unpopular outgoing President Francois Hollande and part of the country's privileged elite.

Macron has also come under fire from potential allies and Le Pen for acting as if victory next month was already in the bag after visiting a restaurant on the Left Bank on Sunday night after his first round triumph, handing ammunition to his opponents who described it as shallow, arrogant behavior.

Speaking after Hollande warned him earlier in the day against taking victory for granted, Macron sought to regain some initiative. REUTERS

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Lawmakers: Former Trump adviser likely broke law with Russia trip

Flynn was forced to resign on Feb. 13 for failing to disclose talks with Sergei Kislyak, the Russian ambassador to the United States, about U.S. sanctions on Moscow and misleading Vice President Mike Pence about the conversations, which occurred in December before Trump took office.

Former White House national security adviser Michael Flynn GETTY IMAGES

Former White House national security adviser Michael Flynn likely broke the law by failing to get permission to be paid for a trip to Russia in 2015, the leaders of the House of Representatives oversight panel said on Tuesday.

During the visit, Flynn, a retired lieutenant general who advised Donald Trump's presidential campaign, dined with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"General Flynn had a duty and an obligation to seek and obtain permission to receive money from foreign governments," Jason Chaffetz, the Republican Chairman of the House Oversight Committee told reporters.

"It does not appear to us that that was ever sought, nor did he ever get that permission," he said.

Flynn is a subject in investigations by intelligence committees in the House and Senate, as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, into allegations that Russia meddled in the 2016 election. Russia has denied the allegations, which have cast a shadow over the first 100 days of Trump's presidency.

"If that money was received by Gen. Flynn, and we believe that it was, that money needs to be recovered."

Chaffetz

In addition to those probes, the oversight panel is looking into whether Flynn fully disclosed payments from Russian, Turkish or other foreign sources.

"As a former military officer, you simply cannot take money from Russia, Turkey or anybody else. And it appears as if he did take that money. It was inappropriate and there are repercussions for the violation of law," Chaffetz said.

He said the Army and Defense Department's inspector general would need to make a final determination.

"If that money was received by Gen. Flynn, and we believe that it was, that money needs to be recovered," Chaffetz said.

There was no immediate response to a request for comment from Flynn's attorney.

Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the House oversight panel, said it also appeared as if Flynn had not fully disclosed the payments after the fact as required, noting that a failure to do so would be a felony that could lead to fines and a prison sentence of up to five years. REUTERS

SENATE HEARING

Former US officials to testify on Russia probe

Two former U.S. officials, intelligence director James Clapper and deputy Attorney General Sally Yates, will testify next month in a Senate investigation into alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election, the Senate Judiciary Committee said.

Four congressional committees are investigating the issue after U.S. intelligence agencies concluded in January that Russian President Vladimir Putin had ordered hacking of the Democratic political groups to try to sway the election toward Republican Donald Trump. Moscow has denied any such meddling.

Clapper, the former director of national intelligence, and Yates, the former deputy attorney general, will testify on May 8 before the subcommittee on crime and terrorism, Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley said.

The two officials from the administration of former President Barack Obama, along with former CIA Director James Brennan, had been scheduled to testify before the House of Representatives' intelligence committee in March, but that public hearing was canceled by the panel's chairman, Republican Devin Nunes. REUTERS

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New Men's Sex Pill Makes Viagra Obsolete

Scientific advance made just for older men. Works on both men's physical ability and their desire in bed.

By Harlan S. Waxman
Health News Syndicate

New York – If you're like the rest of us guys over 50, you probably already know the truth… Prescription ED pills may work, but they don't solve all the problems in the bedroom and they are very expensive. Dr. Bassam Damaj, chief scientific officer at the world famous Innovus Pharma Laboratories, explains, "As we get older, we need more help in bed. Not only does our desire fade; but erections can be soft or feeble, one of the main complaints with prescription pills. Besides, they're expensive… costing as much as $50.00 each."

Plus, it does nothing to stimulate your brain to want sex. "I don't care what you take; if you aren't interested in sex, you can't get or keep an erection. It's physiologically impossible," said Dr. Damaj.

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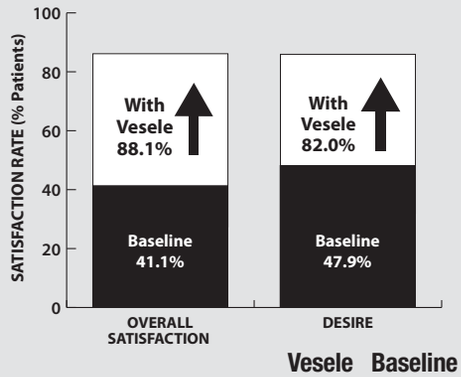

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Uber looks to soar with flying taxis by 2020 in some cities

In the longer term, Uber expects the cost of taking flying taxis to fall below car ownership. GETTY IMAGES

After upending the taxi market with its ride-hailing service, Uber Technologies Inc. is now aiming for the skies with its flying taxis.

The company expects to deploy its flying taxis in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, and Dubai by 2020, Chief Product Officer Jeff Holden said at the Uber Elevate Summit in Dallas on Tuesday.

Uber's flying taxis will be small, electric aircraft that take off and land vertically, or VTOLs, with zero emissions and quiet enough to operate in cities.

Flying taxis would cut down travel time between San Francisco's Marina to downtown San Jose to 15 minutes, compared with the more than two hours it takes by road, Uber estimates.

In an early scale operation, the company can get to $1.32 per passenger mile, a little higher than taking an UberX for a similar distance, Holden said.

The company is working with Hillwood Properties to make four "vertiports" — VTOL hubs with multiple take-off and landing pads, and charging infrastructure — in Dallas starting next year, Holden said.

Uber, valued at $68 billion, has also teamed up with companies such as Bell Helicopter, Aurora, Pipistrel, Mooney and Embraer to make the flying taxis.

The company has also partnered with electric vehicle charging station maker ChargePoint Inc. Uber is working on developing an exclusive charger for its network.

Uber, which has partnered with the Dubai government, expects to conduct passenger flights as part of the World Expo 2020 in Dubai.

The ride-hailing service has recently been rocked by a number of setbacks, including detailed accusations of sexual harassment from a former female employee and a video showing Chief Executive Travis Kalanick harshly berating an Uber driver.

REUTERS

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the word

RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

Tom Hardy chases down a thief, may secretly be a superhero

Tom Hardy is a real life hero and I'm here for it.

The "Taboo" actor reportedly chased down a thief in London, and it was very acrobatic. Baby's been studying Parkour!

According to Page Six, the 39-year-old sprinted after a thief who crashed a stolen moped and fled. A witness in Richmond, London, shared how Hardy literally vaulted over walls, chasing the thief through a back garden before proudly announcing "I caught the c—t." What an actual dreamboat.

The witness, Arun Pullen, said the experience was pretty crazy. "It was mental — like he'd switched to superhero mode in an action movie. Two boys on the [stolen] moped had jumped a red light and smashed a car.

"[Tom] went off like a shot in pursuit and looked furious."

Hardy reportedly patted the thief down before making a citizen's arrest. And according to Pullen's girlfriend, he did not disappoint. "He looked as mad as he does on telly," she said.

So there you have it. Tom Hardy is some sort of real-life crime-fighting babe. Like a hotter, less blue Captain Planet in clothes that are appropriate and actually fit. Which is chill, because we are sorely in need of a pouty lipped British superhero with a myriad of bad tattoos. Thank you, Tom Hardy!

Chris Pratt doesn't want to take a photo with you, sorry

Chris Pratt knows you love him, but he will not consent to taking a photograph with you.

In an interview with "Cigar Aficionado" the "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" star reveals that he just wants to live a normal life. "I just don't take pictures with people. Because that's not about enjoying the moment; it's about stealing the moment to brag about later." I guess being rich and famous is just a dang burden, huh?

I like Pratt. But sometimes, when he opens his mouth, I just want to gently place my finger over his seemingly well-moisturized lips and say "Shhhh ... just be pretty and charming and stick to your PR lady's talking points."

Since Pratt won't take a picture with me, here's a short list of people and or things I'd rather feature on my Instagram Story.

Michael Fassbender — he's hot, he's Irish, he acts good.

The hunchback of Notre Dame from the Disney movie "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

A pile of patchouli-tainted, tobacco-stained scarves that formerly belonged to Johnny Depp — the man knows his scarves, OK!?

So yeah, Pratt. I will survive.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Jenna Dewan Tatum says Channing is a master of seduction

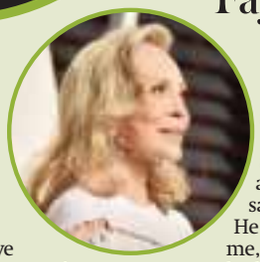
Jenna Dewan Tatum is dishing about how she started dating her husband, Channing, and it is just as charming as you think.

It all started on the set of "Step Up," a film that unfortunately encouraged so many spinoffs it makes me sick. "I said, 'Well look, if you want to date other people and be free that's totally fine," she told DeGeneres. "'But we're not gonna hang out and watch movies. You have to figure out what you want because I want a relationship.'"

Three days later, Tatum came a knockin' on her hotel door. "He said he had the chance to be free and he couldn't stop thinking about me," Jenna remembered, laughing the laugh of a woman who has brilliantly plotted her way into the pants of a fine young gentleman. "He's in a sombrero, underwear and Ugg boots and said, 'Let's do this.'" Then, they did it.

So yeah, they're still charming — at least as far as celebrity couples go.

Faye Dunaway opens up about Oscars snafu



Faye Dunaway is finally opening up about ye olde Oscars mixup and she would like you to know she feels very, very bad.

The actress appeared on "NBC Nightly News" and chatted with Lester Holt to tell Middle America all about it. "[Beatty] took the card out, and he didn't say anything," she said. "He paused. He looked over at me, [then] offstage. He looked around. And I finally said, 'You're impossible.' I thought he was joking. … Warren's like that. He kind of holds the power and makes people — a dramatic pause. But it's part of his charm." I think we have different definitions of "charm," m'lady, but OK.

After two agonizing minutes, the mistake was corrected and Barry Jenkins' "Moonlight" was correctly announced. And good thing: Like Matt Prigge says, "In the age of Black Lives Matter, would this lily-white confection, in which Ryan Gosling whitesplains jazz to John Legend, steal the Best Picture trophy destined for 'Moonlight' — the film about a poor, gay black kid struggling to eke by?" Nope!

SHH...NO ONE HAS TO KNOW IT WASN'T SQUATS!

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In defense of Robert Pattinson

The "Twilight" alum is now almost as interesting an actor as Kristen Stewart.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

A million think pieces have confirmed it: Kristen Stewart is now an acclaimed actress. But what of her "Twilight" co-star? What of Robert Pattinson, the pale, slightly weird-looking dreamboat who spent the saga sniffing like a coke addict and mumbling through come-ons like, "I've never wanted a human's blood so much in my life"?

The two have more than an bygone franchise in common: They've more or less ditched Hollywood. As their money-gobbling emo series was winding down, both starred in big-time vehicles. Stewart did "Snow White and the Huntsman"; Pattinson popped up in "Water for Elephants" and the dire, offensive 9/11 drama "Remember Me." They could have done more. But they didn't. Instead, both decided to go underground, loaning their names, and what has come to be seen as their undervalued talents, to truly interesting films made by iconoclastic filmmakers.

Pattinson was even first. A couple years before Stewart hooked up with her "Clouds of Sils Maria" director Olivier Assayas, he ran off with David Cronenberg. The first sign that he was far more than "Twilight" was 2012's "Cosmopolis," the Canadian legend's bizarro take on a slender Don DeLillo novel. His character is a wealth monster who Pattinson plays as a kind of robot, unsure of how normal people behave. His actions prove increasingly unpredictable, irrational, ultimately violent. He's absolutely thrilling, and it seemed Cronenberg finally figured out what to do with the young megastar.

GETTY

Since then, Pattinson hasn't had a role as plumb as "Cosmopolis." He hasn't given himself the chance. While Stewart has received art house vehicles like "Cafe Society" and "Personal Shopper," Pattinson has been happy to make his name as a go-to supporting actor.

In "The Rover," a grim Australian dystopia from "Animal Kingdom's" David Michod, he's the loose-cannon freak who teams up with our fatalistic anti-hero, played by Guy Pearce. He only swings by occasionally in Werner Herzog's "Queen of the Desert," playing a smirking, good-humored T.E. Lawrence (aka Lawrence of Arabia).

RPatz has come a long way since "Twilight." LIONSGATE

Robert Pattinson is barely recognizable under a scruffy beard in the new "The Lost City of Z," now in theaters. AIDAN MONAGHAN, AMAZON STUDIOS, BLEECKER STREET

Sometimes Pattinson's barely on screen at all. He only has a couple scenes in "The Childhood of a Leader," Brady Corbet's disturbing look at a Mussolini-like tyrant as a kid, and he mostly spends them playing snooker. You get the sense — here and in his other Cronenberg film, "Maps to the Stars" — that he's simply lending his name to fascinating filmmakers, charitably ensuring his presence will get great but difficult work financed.

Pattinson isn't the lead in James Gray's new "The Lost City of Z" either; that would be Charlie Hunnam, who plays an English explorer at the turn of the last century traipsing about unchartered Bolivian jungle. Pattinson barely even looks like himself. His clean face is lost under an epic beard, his eyes obscured by wire glasses.

He doesn't try to steal the movie, but he does disappear into the role. We're never distracted by him, and we can focus on an iconoclastic director's singular vision. Instead, Pattinson is a welcome presence.

At this point, it's a pleasure to see Pattinson appearing in a movie. Give this guy another "Cosmopolis" and chances are he'll wow us — which is not something you might have said after chuckling through "Breaking Dawn — Part 2."

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Alexis Bledel tells us the most frightening thing about 'The Handmaid's Tale'

The actress hopes the show inspires conversation.

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Alexis Bledel plays Ofglen, a handmaid in the TV adaptation of "The Handmaid's Tale." TAKE FIVE/HULU

Offred and Ofglen accompany each other to the market. GEORGE KRAYCHYK

Today, Margaret Atwood's 1985 dystopian novel, "The Handmaid's Tale," debuts as a television series on Hulu, with an all-star cast that includes Elisabeth Moss, Ray Fiennes and Alexis Bledel.

Set in the not-too-distant-future world of Gilead, a Christian-fundamentalist theocracy has overthrown the U.S. government and women are stripped of their rights — not able to hold jobs or bank accounts.

Due to an epidemic of infertility, fertile women are sent to become handmaids for the upper classes, which includes having sex with men in the presence of their wives for the purpose of bearing children for the family.

Scared yet? For Bledel, who plays the handmaid Ofglen in the series, the most frightening thing about the story is that it hits awfully close to reality:

"The fact that many of the things in it are not made up [is what scares me most]," she says. "All of this has happened somewhere in the world — these are things humans have done or experienced somewhere. It gives it a frighteningly real aspect."

The election of Donald Trump as our 45th president adds even more relevancy to "The Handmaid's Tale," especially considering the recent move to defund Planned Parenthood on the state level. The government's regulation over women's bodies is a theme that runs rampant in both the book and series:

"Watching the show does bring up thoughts on women's reproductive rights for people," Bledel admits.

Unlike many a think piece, the 35 year old didn't get to compare the current nationalist-leaning administration to the one in the show because she wrapped filming one day post-election.

Stepping outside the lines GEORGE KRAYCHYK

"I remember having a very different feeling internally because I was still processing the news," she recalls. "But on set, it was the same set that I knew before. Everyone was doing great work and in good spirits. If I was there longer, I'm sure I would have had many conversations about how it undoubtedly felt different."

At the end of the day, Bledel hopes that the show illustrates the dangers of apathy and sparks productive conversations:

"The world keeps moving forward at a more rapid pace than ever, and it requires action. It requires a response."

The first three episodes of "The Handmaid's Tale" premiere today on Hulu.

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Molecular doughnuts

Former wd~50 chef Wylie Dufresne is back with Du's Donuts, an all-day breakfast cafe and bar.

EVA KIS
@thisiskis
eva.kis@metro.us

Doughnuts left behind their heritage as the simple, traditional dessert option when the Cronut Revolution hit. Picking up right where the "Sex and the City" cupcake craze left off, they've been turned savory, boozy, and even meaty.

So it's a bit of a surprise that it's chef Wylie Dufresne, known for popularizing molecular gastronomy at wd~50, bringing them back to their roots with Du's Donuts and Coffee.

"It's something I've wanted to do for years," he says. "My great grandfather was a doughnut maker, so it's always been a part of my family."

Opening today at 107 N. 12th St. in Williamsburg, Du's is his first venture since closing wd~50 in 2014 and his more casual gastropub Alder the following year, then spent some time popping up in kitchens around the city, including at Dominique Ansel Kitchen.

PROVIDED

At Du's, Dufresne and head baker Colin Kull, formerly of the West Village's classic French bistro Tartine, are sticking to one style of doughnut — "I prefer cake to yeast," Dufresne says simply — served in 10 flavors: Mexican Hot Chocolate, Creamsicle, Grapefruit Chamomile, Pistachio Pink Lemonade, Banana Graham, Malted Coffee, Pomegranate Tahini, Peanut Butter Yuzu and two that will be served hot: Cinnamon Apple and Strawberries and Cream.

If that sounds a bit too old school, remember that Dufresne's brand of molecular gastronomy wasn't for show, but making his food taste like the best version of itself.

"The common thread running through wd~50, Alder and Du's is creativity," he explains. "Our approach and methodology is perfectly suited to the process of making doughnuts."

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Why people pay millions to live in DUMBO

The view from DUMBO: Jane's Carousel, the Brooklyn Bridge and the Manhattan skyline. ISTOCK

Young professionals and families — who can afford it — flock to the Brooklyn neighborhood for its small town feel, epic waterfront views and proximity to Manhattan.

KATE MOONEY
@yatinbrooklyn
kate.mooney@metro.us

The waterfront community of DUMBO might have the best views in all of Brooklyn. The acronym-named neighborhood, which stands for "Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass," is bordered by Brooklyn Bridge Park to the north, providing panoramic sights of the East River, the Manhattan skyline and the Brooklyn Bridge. Jane's Carousel, the 1920s antique and Brooklyn icon, revolves year-round at the water's edge.

It's an easy commute to Manhattan (10 minutes via the F, A and C lines). And while home to several high-profile startups, including e-commerce site Etsy and home retailer West Elm — which recently expanded into a 10,000 square foot space on the ground floor of the Empire Stores warehouses — the old port village maintains an old timey Brooklyn feel in its architecture and proximity to historic Brooklyn Heights, its neighbor to the south.

Deborah Rieders, a licensed associate real estate broker at Corcoran, who has worked in the area for 16 years, says that's a draw for her clients moving from Manhattan neighborhoods like Tribeca and SoHo. "They really appreciate that architecture of the old lofts and the cobblestone streets, versus, say, a brand new construction high-rise you might get in Williamsburg," she explains.

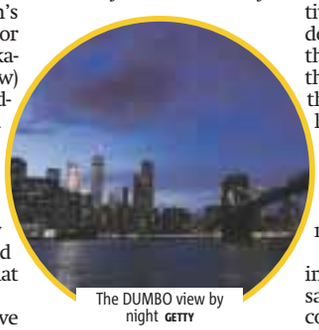
You pay for what is now "the premiere neighborhood in Brooklyn," as Rieders calls it. According to the MNS Brooklyn Rental Market report for March, DUMBO had the highest average rents of the borough, at $3,488 for a studio, at $4,373 for a one bedroom and $5,900 for a two bedroom. And they're climbing: The report also noted DUMBO has Brooklyn's biggest rent increase in two bedroom apartments, up 5.7 percent.

It's pricey to buy, as well. Just this month, the neighborhood saw the most expensive condo sale in the borough's history, a penthouse that went for $15 million in the Dumbo Clock Tower building at 1 Main St. According to Zillow, home values in the neighborhood have gone up 9.7 percent in the past year, with the median price currently listed at $2,275,000, compared to a boroughwide median of $788,329.

Elvin Roytman, a licensed real estate salesperson at Douglas Elliman, who handles rentals and sales in DUMBO and surrounding neighborhoods, attributes the high price point to the fact that "land is at a premium here. Since you're surrounded by the Navy Yard and the water, it's harder to expand and build than it is in other areas, and it costs more to develop," he explains.

It's a great place to raise a family — if you can afford it. Mallory Kasdan, a 44-year-old children's book author, voice actor and podcaster (MILK, aka-Moms I'd Like to Know) who owns a three-bedroom with her husband and two kids on Water Street, says the neighborhood has a "small town feel." While she wouldn't disclose how much she paid, she did say matter-of-factly that "there are no deals."

"All of our kids have grown up together," says Kasdan. "It's a really interesting place to live. There's always something weird going on. Whenever [our kids] tell us, 'Mom, dad, why don't we have a backyard?' We always tell them, 'The park! The movie set! The flea market!'"



The DUMBO view by night GETTY

Armand P., a 28-year-old who owns his own software company, cites the neighborhood's relative quiet as a draw. "You don't get a lot of pass through traffic. People either come here because they're a tourist or they live and work here," he says. In July, he and his girlfriend moved into a one-bedroom, paying just under $3,000 a month.

While he loves living by so many parks, he says the neighborhood could use a few more restaurants. Of the current offerings, he names Vinegar Hill House, just a few blocks west, as a favorite.

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IMAXShift **PROVIDED**

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NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

DUMBO House **PROVIDED**

Construction is nearing completion on the first Brooklyn outpost of members-only club SoHo House. It'll be called DUMBO House, and it's set to open this fall in the top two floors of DUMBO's Empire Stores, joining tenants West Elm and Shinola. While the plans don't include a pool, unlike the Manhattan location, there will be a bar and an outdoor terrace overlooking the East River. ***Empire Stores, 53-83 Water St. empirestoresdumbo.com***

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Are you past menopause and overweight?

Researchers at The Rockefeller University are conducting a study to compare inflammation below the surface of the skin in women who are past menopause.

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> Are between the ages of 40 and 70 years old
> Are at least 2 years past your last menstrual period
> Have a BMI above 35

Participation includes:

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> Compensation

To learn more, contact our Recruitment Specialist at 1-800-RUCARES or email us at RUCARES@Rockefeller.edu

Healthy Volunteers Wanted for a Clinical Research Study!

Have you ever considered participating in a clinical research study?

If so, Clinilabs currently is enrolling volunteers for a clinical trial to evaluate the effects of an investigational drug product.

To see if you prequalify for a study:

Volunteer Criteria:
Male and Women age 18-65
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Alexander Ovechkin of the Washington Capitals and Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins will renew their rivalry in the playoffs once again during the Eastern Conference semifinals. GETTY IMAGES

Predictions

Rangers over Senators in 6
Capitals over Penguins in 7
Predators over Blues in 6
Ducks over Oilers in 6

NHL playoffs 2nd-round preview

Another tasty slate of matchups awaits in conference semifinals portion of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

JOE PANTORNO
@JoePantorno
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

There's no rest for the weary when it comes to the Stanley Cup playoffs. That's what makes the NHL's championship so difficult to get to.

Over two months of nonstop action in a sport that is as physical as it is graceful at times calls every fiber of a player's being into question before they can lift Lord Stanley's Cup.

It has only just begun for the eight teams left standing as the league prepares for its second round of postseason action.

Here's what you need to know before they lace up the skates:

EASTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Ottawa Senators vs. New York Rangers

Washington Capitals vs. Pittsburgh Penguins

WESTERN CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

Anaheim Ducks vs. Edmonton Oilers

St. Louis Blues vs. Nashville Predators

Top series

Capitals vs. Penguins

This is the time of year when grownups that are NHL fans become giddy like schoolchildren. Sure, this series can be labeled as Capitals vs. Penguins, but this is really another installment of Alexander Ovechkin vs. Sidney Crosby.

The two have been seemingly intertwined in the NHL's version of Magic Johnson vs. Larry Bird since they both made their debuts during the 2005-06 season.

Ovechkin is the sniping machine that can unleash screaming shots toward the goal if given a centimeter of space. Crosby is more of the chess player whose vision and ability to predict where the play is moving puts him and his teammates in better scoring opportunities.

They've combined for five Hart Trophies as the league's most valuable player with Ovechkin holding the slim advantage with three. He also won six Rocket Richard Trophies as the NHL's top goal scorer.

For the first time since 2009-10 though, Crosby lit the lamp more than Ovechkin this year with a league-leading 44 goals to go with 45 assists. He will surely be a finalist for a third MVP.

Crosby has also had far more success in the postseason, winning a pair of Stanley Cups. Ovechkin and the Capitals have never made it to the Eastern Conference Finals despite winning the President's Trophy (most points in the regular season) twice.

The Capitals and Penguins have met twice in the playoffs during the Crosby and Ovechkin eras. Both times the Penguins came on top in the conference semifinals and went on to win the Stanley Cup in 2009 and last year.

Player to watch

Connor McDavid, C, Edmonton Oilers

There are some people with the audacity to say that Connor McDavid *only* scored two goals during the first round against the defending Western Conference champion San Jose Sharks.

I guess being a 20-year-old captain guiding a team that hasn't been in the playoffs for over a decade to a first-round victory wasn't good enough for their astronomical standards.

There were times when I was 20 that I had to lie down when given too much homework. This kid is the Art Ross Trophy winner after leading the league with 100 points (30 G, 70 A) as the NHL's next big thing.

Hockey fans will get to see just how good he is on the next big stage against a team he's had marginal success against.

The Anaheim Ducks are a defensive-minded team that allowed the third-least amount of goals during the 2016-17 regular season. During their first-round series against the Calgary Flames, they allowed two or fewer goals in three of their four wins.

In eight career games against the Ducks, McDavid has eight points (2 G, 6 A) and will draw most of the attention from Anaheim's defense.

Blount could be big back Giants are missing

The Giants and the free agent RB have a reported "mutual interest," ahead of this Thursday's draft.

JOE PANTORNO
@JoePantorno
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

With the NFL draft just hours away, some veteran free agents are starting to inch toward signing new contracts.

Adrian Peterson and the New Orleans Saints made the biggest splash this week when they finalized a two-year deal Tuesday.

Another free-agent back could be the next big name to sign and he could be making his way to Metlife Stadium.

According to NFL.com's Ian Rapoport, there is "mutual interest" between LeGarrette Blount and the New York Giants in a deal that could be completed before Thursday's draft.

Blount resurrected his career with the New England Patriots last season, rushing for a career-best 1,161 yards and a league-leading 18 touchdowns.

While it might not alter the Giants' draft strategy much considering the team's need for help along the offensive line, the 6-foot-1, 245-pound bruiser of a back would provide a much-needed change of pace for an offense devoid of a legitimate No. 1 rusher.

New York ranked 29th in rushing offense last season as it did not have a single back eclipse the 600-yard mark.

Rashad Jennings was not physical enough to be an in-between-the-tackles runner but not fast enough to bounce things outside in the West Coast offense, either. The Giants released him after the 2016 season and he is still a free agent.

Paul Perkins showed flashes of being a productive back, but it remains to be seen if the 22-year-old could actually be a headlining man in the backfield. New York also brought on Shaun Draughn as a veteran option that offers a similar skill set.

Free agent running back LeGarrette Blount would provide the Giants with a big body in the backfield. GETTY IMAGES

Shane Vereen brings the most agility in the Giants' backfield and is a viable receiving option in the flat as well, but his health has been a cause for concern.

If the Giants are able to bring Blount on, then their backfield has a solid amount of depth that could play almost any style depending on the opponent.

One of the calling cards of many great Giants teams was their ability to methodically move the ball down the field via the running game and simply wear opponents out.

With the introduction of Ben McAdoo's West Coast offense, New York has moved away from that style of play over the years, putting more pressure on Eli Manning and the passing game.

If the Giants can introduce an effective ground game by bringing on Blount, then they will have to like their chances of making the playoffs for a second-straight year with a well-rounded offense.

Knee Arthritis Pain?

FREE Video And Report reveals cutting- edge medical treatments every knee arthritis sufferer should know about

Modern medicine has come a long way. The success stories and lives saved are endless.

And now, through advanced technology and science - skilled medical doctors are helping more knee arthritis pain sufferers than ever before.

But with the blistering pace modern medicine advances... how do you know what treatments are your best options and what doctors offers them? Here is how....

This is Matt from NYC Pain MD. NYC Pain MD is a medical clinic in New York City that has medical doctors specially trained in the most advanced, cutting-edge knee arthritis treatments available.

And we have put together an information kit that that details some of these advanced medical procedures that have already helped thousands. Including what you need to know about joint lubricating injections, platelet rich plasma (PRP), stem cell therapy... and more.

The free information kit contains a video and report that will also explain the two arthritis treatments paths you should know about and what ***"Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology"*** is and why is might relieve your pain.

How To Get Your Free Information Kit

All you have to do is go to paintreatmentnyc.com and put your name and email address in the space provided and we will email you a video and PDF report detailing what treatment options could be the best for your arthritis pain and how we might be able to help you.

Just go to Paintreatmentnyc.com put your name and email in the form and you will have the free information kit in minutes.

We will also send you a way to get a free screening to see if you qualify for one of our treatments. It is 100% free with no further obligation. If you are interested... awesome. If not, that's ok... at least you will have all the information.

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P.S. We are real doctors and you will be getting real medical advice about real medical treatments. This is not some fake "wonder cure." This is only for you if you are looking for a possible real medical solution for your knee arthritis pain.

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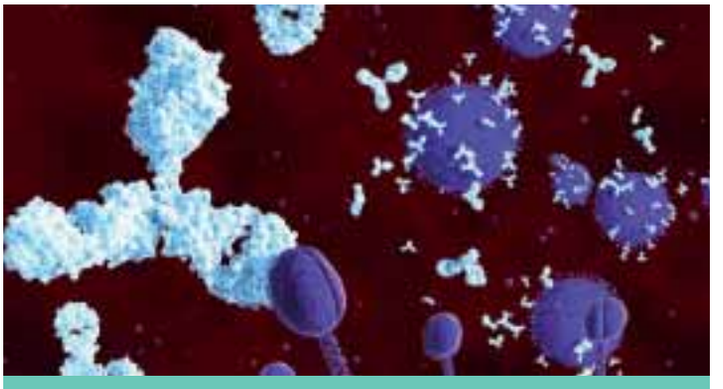
HIV+ and not on treatment?



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- Receive 1 to 3 infusions of the antibodies
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- HIV positive
- Hepatitis B and C negative
- Between the ages of 18 to 65
- Not taking HIV medications

Compensation is provided.

To learn more, contact our Recruitment Specialist at 1-800-RUCARES or email us at RUCARES@Rockefeller.edu

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NYSPI IRB Approved

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If interested, please call

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The study is conducted at New York State Psychiatric Institute/Columbia University Medical Center and is funded by a research grant from the National Institute of Health.

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- Are you female?
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Our study seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of a natural supplement for alleviating overactive bladder symptoms in women.

Compensation for completion of the study is $300.

If you are interested in participating or want to learn more about this study, please contact our study coordinator:

(646)962-9395 or **dot2007@med.cornell.edu**

WCMC protocol # 1506016303

Have HIV and COPD/ Emphysema?

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Compensation: (Up to maximum $700)

- Screening visit (med/phy, urine and blood tests, EKG and breathing test): $50
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- Non-bronchoscopy follow-ups: $50

WCMC IRB Approval: 06/14/2016 **Expires:** 06/13/2017

Find us on FB: @WCMgeneticmedicine Twitter: @GeneticMedicine

Department of Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine
IRB #: 1208012780

For more information contact:

646.962.2672

CORA@med.cornell.edu

NYSPI IRB Approved

Has your thinking slowed down over time?
Do you walk and move more slowly than you used to?
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Join a research study at the Columbia University Medical Center. We are looking for participants aged 60 or older to get involved. This study is happening at 168th Street and Broadway in Manhattan. If eligible you could get:

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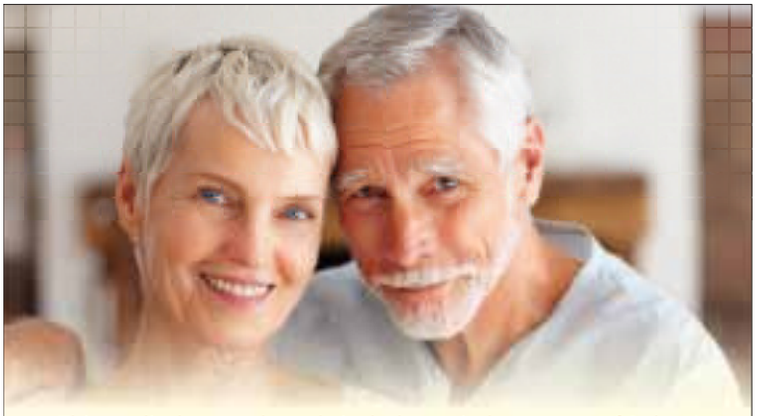

This medical research study includes an in-house stay of 3 days/ 2 nights and 6 outpatient visits, 1 phone call and 1 follow up visit.

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Attorney(s) for Plaintiff(s):
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Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about March 7, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the QUEENS COUNTY SUPREME COURT, located at 88-11 SUTPHN BOULEVARD, JAMAICA, NEW YORK, IN COURTROOM # 25. on May 12, 2017 at 10:00 am. Premises known as 208-07 ESTATES DRIVE, BAYSIDE, NY 11360, Block: 5843 Lot: 1508
ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being a part of a condominium in the City of New York, County of Queens, State of New York, known and described as "Home" No. 130-2 together with an .33783784% undivided interest in the common elements of the condominium hereinafter described as the same is defined in the Declaration of Condominium ("Declaration") hereinafter referred to. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment $669,988.72 plus interest and costs.
INDEX NO. 701103/2014
Phillip L. Baskerville, Esq.,
Referee

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday May 10, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at 42 Broadway, 5th floor on a petition for El Sayed 1 Corp. to establish, maintain, and operate an unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 93 Avenue B in the Borough of Manhattan for a term of two years.

REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF THE REVOCABLE CONSENT AGREEMENT MAYBE ADDRESSED TO: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, ATTN: FOIL OFFICER, 42 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10004.

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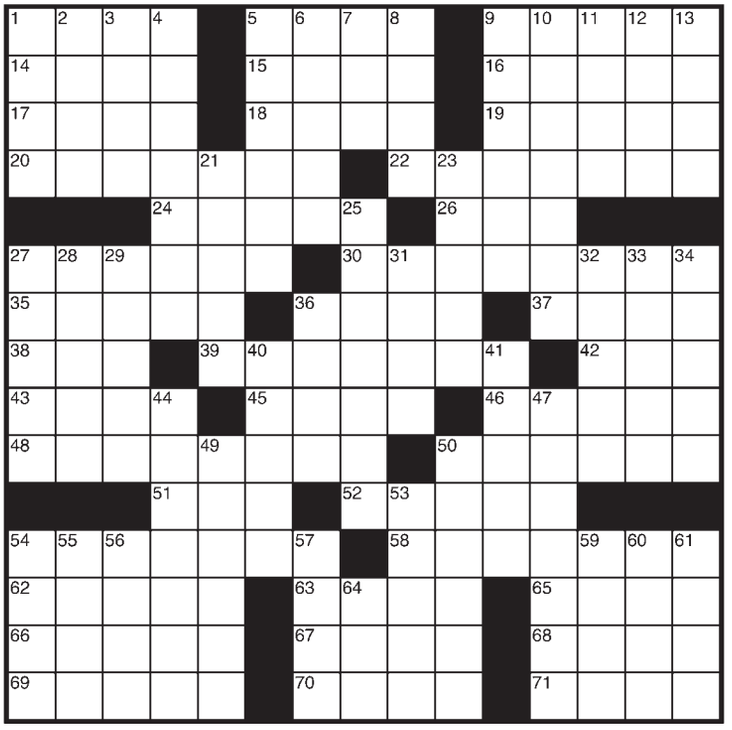
Across
1 Ocean fish
5 Cookbook qty.
9 Pass off as valuable
14 Hurricane centers
15 Rick's old flame
16 Rummage through
17 A Baldwin
18 Phoenician deity
19 Trademark cow
20 Wool fat
22 Team symbols
24 Show surprise
26 Genetic sequence
27 Rock tumbler stones
30 Get ready to strike, maybe
35 Almost chilly
36 Coat rack
37 Ancient colonnade
38 Came down with
39 "Sleepless in --"
42 MIT grad
43 Receptive
45 Wire thicknesses
46 Caravan member
48 Favor
50 Hair foam
51 -- Dawn Chong
52 Spinnakers and jibs
54 Furnish
58 Novel activity?
62 Kept the title
63 "The Bridge on the River --"
65 Abba not in the music biz
66 Declare invalid
67 Pull down
68 Beatles' meter maid
69 Like a damp rock
70 Small amount of residue
71 Kassel's river

Down
1 Pull through
2 Jean Auel heroine
3 Quick-witted
4 Dates
5 Shinbones
6 Bugs Bunny's voice
7 FICA funds it
8 Coconut bearer
9 San Joaquin Valley city
10 Gas station discards (2 wds.)
11 In that case (2 wds.)
12 Paper cut
13 Kickoff stands
21 Mild onions
23 A moon of Uranus
25 Slowpoke
27 Loathe
28 Jelly flavor
29 Staff members
31 Hockey goals
32 Objects
33 Gaea has five
34 Torturer of Prometheus
36 Kite stabilizer
40 Fix firmly
41 Common bacterium (2 wds.)
44 Edgy
47 Spartan
49 By and large
50 Bogging down
53 Plugged in
54 Baby buggy
55 Vegas rival
56 Purchases
57 Just scraped by
59 Term paper abbr.
60 Statistician -- Silver
61 Pitbull sound
64 Kind of dance or paint



metro.us/sudoku

easy

		8		6	1			
6			7	4	5			3
	9				2			
		4			6	3	8	
3								1
	7	6	5			2		
			1				7	
8			3	2	4			5
			6	7		1		

hard

		1	9	3		2		
		9			7	6		
2								
	2	8	1	9		7		6
	9						8	
4		5		7	8	3	2	
								8
		2	7			1		
		7		1	3	5		

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Get involved in a program that will encourage good health. Taking better care of your physical and financial needs is highlighted. Think before you take a risk.

Taurus Personal gains are heading in your direction. Accept the inevitable and welcome the changes that will give you the push you need to pursue more ambitious goals.

Gemini Deal with unfinished business. Take on institutions or government agencies that are taking advantage of you or your community. Get the facts and speak up.

Cancer Take charge and don't budge if you feel it's not in your best interest. Don't worry about a stalemate. The results will turn in your favor. Let your intuition guide you.

Leo Look at all aspects of an agreement, and negotiate on your own behalf. Knowing what you want and what's expected of you will help you find success. Initiate change.

Virgo Set up a meeting, interview or talk with an expert in order to help you make decisions regarding your current position and future pursuits.

Libra Changes at home can be made that will help you save money. A move or change in the way you handle your financial affairs should stabilize your life.

Scorpio A personal connection with someone close to you will encourage you to explore the unknown and consider doing things differently.

Sagittarius You know what's best, and you know what to do, so don't allow anyone to play emotional mind games with you. Put your trust in yourself.

Capricorn Build your assets, take care of investments and make changes at home that will help cut costs. Financial growth is good, but indulgence is not.

Aquarius Emotions will surface if things don't go your way financially. Use common sense and be practical when dealing with change that could get costly. Call in favors.

Pisces Plan your actions with precision and look over the fine print when dealing with documents. Discuss your concerns but don't disclose information. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

T	R	I	G		L	I	M	O	S		R	A	M	P
O	I	S	E		A	L	E	U	T		I	D	E	E
R	O	A	R		S	E	R	G	E		C	O	N	E
S	T	A	M	P	S		C	H	A	L	K	S	U	P
O	S	C	A	R		L	I	T	M	U	S			
			N	O	R	A				T	H	A	N	T
A	W	L	S		A	D	E		A	Z	A	L	E	A
K	A	I			S	Y	R	I	A			D	B	L
I	C	E	C	A	P		A	S	H		E	A	R	L
N	O	D	E	S				I	S	B	N			
			M	E	T	A	L	S		A	F	T	E	R
R	E	H	E	A	R	S	E		B	R	O	W	S	E
I	M	A	N		E	N	T	R	E		R	E	T	E
P	I	N	T		V	E	G	A	N		C	E	E	S
E	R	G	S		I	R	O	N	S		E	T	R	E

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